

Proposed permit parking schemes – How do they work?

1. How many permits can a resident apply for?

The number of permits each household can hold varies depending on the permit area, but most provide two permits (some only one). This figure is flexible and will be determined by local Councillors as part of the decision-making process.

2. What is the fee for parking permits?

This cannot be confirmed as it is related to the enforcement requirements that would be determined following the current consultation, but in other all-day zones, the fees are currently £60 for one permit and a second permit costs £110. In zones that only operate for an hour or so, the fees are currently £30 for one permit and £55 for a second. These fees compare well with private parking which is typically around £1,500 to £2,500 annually.

3. Are permits linked to car registration numbers or are they freely transferable by the house owner?

Permits are issued to specific vehicles to prevent misuse.

4. Would I be able to park outside my house?

Permit parking prioritises parking for people who occupy local addresses, so if your road is affected by commuter parking then it is more likely that you would find parking close to your house. Permits prevent parking by non-residents who could park elsewhere, for example in dedicated car parks.

5. If I have a permit would I be able to park my vehicle in any available “permit only” parking bay in Croxley Green?

This depends on the size of any Permit Zones that are created. Permits would only be eligible within one Zone, but each zone tends to be fairly large to allow permit-holders to park easily.

6. Would the new measures prevent school drop offs / pickups?

If drivers are delivering or if parents stay with their vehicle they would be unlikely to contravene the restrictions but enforcement is usually tailored to the local situation, so for example enforcement officers typically focus on problem parking such as obstruction of school ‘keep clear’ zigzags or parking across driveways.

7. What about home deliveries or regular visits from Health visitors or Carers

Permit parking controls are intended to make parking easier for local people. They allow permit holders and their visitors to park in parking bays. There are a variety of different parking options to enable legitimate parking to take place; for example most healthcare firms regularly use ‘Health Visitor permits’ that enable them to park in any Permit Zone. Where yellow lines (called ‘waiting restrictions’) are in place, vehicles must not be parked but could load or unload.

8. I live on a road comprising 135 houses. There would be 93 parking bays. How many parking permits would TRDC issue?

Permit holders can park anywhere in a Zone, not just in their street, and the number of permits issued is not related to the parking capacity on any street. Parking demand for permit holders is typically lower during the day than at night (when Permit Zones do not operate) and is expected to rise and fall around the Zone as people move around during the day.

9. Within the permit parking zone would there be any “unrestricted parking” areas?

No, the law does not allow for this; every part of a Zone must be controlled during the Zone operational hours.

10. What would be done to assist commuters who want to park nearby the station?

Private parking is available at rail stations and the scheme includes consideration of charged commuter parking (i.e. on-street pay-and-display) at locations where it does not disadvantage local residents.

11. Who would police the new parking restrictions and how frequently would this be done?

The District Council’s Parking Enforcement Service Provider is Hertsmere Borough Council, which would determine the regularity of enforcement.

12. I am a person of State Pension age or over. Would the permits prices apply to me?

The same permit prices are likely to apply to all vehicles.

13. What is the amount of the fine for a non permit vehicle in the controlled zone?

The parking penalty (a civil penalty, not a fine) is set at £70 for a 'higher level' contravention like this (which is defined in law).

14. Would I retain my "Disabled parking" bay?

Yes and these would be formalised so that they are enforceable.

15. What are the benefits of Permit Parking Zones?

Permit parking allows the District Council to prioritise parking for people at local addresses, who need to be able to park close to their home or business.

Some parts of the District including the centres of Chorleywood and Rickmansworth are already in Permit Parking Zones. These Zones, like other parking restrictions, are shown by a mixture of signs and lines and their legal basis is the traffic orders that are created by the District or County Council.

Some drivers (such as local residents whose properties front onto a controlled street) may be eligible to buy a permit to park there.

The demand for limited street parking is managed in this way, by restricting the classes of driver eligible for a permit, but most Zones also include space where other drivers (such as visitors to shops and services) can pay for parking in public car parks or at 'pay and display' bays located near shops and local facilities.

16. Why does Three Rivers District Council charge a fee for parking permits and other tickets?

The role played by the District Council in managing parking demand on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council usually involves introducing new permit parking zones to prioritise parking for local residents, employees and visitors, in that order.

People with addresses within Permit Zones are charged a small annual fee for permits. This helps to support the costs of introducing Zones that are introduced to prioritise parking in their favour. Permit parking areas are introduced as a benefit for people at local addresses, as they help people to park near to their address.

Local Authorities must charge for permits and pay-and-display tickets because the law requires that the enforcement of civil parking areas must be self-financing and not funded by the taxpayer.

As the objective of parking controls is 100% compliance, money from the issue of Penalty Charge tickets cannot be used to fully finance the enforcement of parking restrictions. Ideally, all drivers would park lawfully and responsibly, so there would be no need for any Penalty Charge tickets to be issued. Parking enforcement must therefore be funded from the issue of permits and tickets.

Provision is also made for parking for commuters and other road users where it is considered useful and justified by the evidence. This parking provision is usually made in the form of long-stay pay-and-display parking or through restricted forms of season tickets.

17. How are Permits issued?

Addresses in each Zone are usually eligible for permits in that Zone (although some, for example new addresses, may not be). The legal document that introduces the Zone (a 'traffic order') sets out who is eligible and cannot easily be changed. Permits are available to residents or for their visitors. Eligible residents can apply for a permit online.